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EXAMINER

PATEL, HARESH N

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2154

DATE MAILED: 02/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/556,068

Applicant(s)

ALLAVARPU ET AL.

Examiner

Haresh Patel

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 October 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-63 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-63 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/14/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-63, are presented for examination.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 10/14/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Therefore, rejection of claims 1-63 is maintained.

Applicant argues, (1) "Barker et al. U.S. patent number 6,363,421 (Herein after Barker) does not anticipate a gateway that is configurable to provide object-level access control between the managers and the managed objects, wherein said object-level access control is provided at the individual object level so that one of the managers is granted access to one of the managed objects while being prevented from interfacing with a different one of the managed objects". The examiner respectfully disagrees in response to applicant's arguments. Barker very clearly teaches a gateway (e.g., an element management server, figure 1A), that is configurable to provide object-level access control (e.g., use of managed object identifier for network elements, figure 6) between the managers (e.g., software modules accessing network elements, figures 3 and 4) and the managed objects (e.g., network elements, figure 1C, abstract), wherein said object-level access control is provided at the individual object level so that one of the managers (e.g., software modules accessing network elements, figures 3 and 4) is granted access to one of the managed objects (e.g., network elements, figure 1C, abstract) while being prevented from interfacing with a different one of the managed objects (e.g., use of managed object identifier for network elements, figure 6). Therefore the rejection is maintained as disclosed below. Also, Page 46 of the specification, i.e., enclosed disclosure, clearly states "variations, modifications,

additions and improvements may fall within the scope of the invention as detailed within the claims". Since, applicant's claims contain broadly claimed subject matter, it clearly reads upon the examiner's interpretation of these actions. Therefore, Barker meets the claimed limitations.

Applicant argues, (2) "Barker does not teach object-level access control". The examiner respectfully disagrees in response to applicant's arguments. Barker very clearly teaches an object-level access control (e.g., use of managed object identifier for network elements, figure 6). Therefore the rejection is maintained as disclosed below. Also, Page 46 of the specification, i.e., enclosed disclosure, clearly states "variations, modifications, additions and improvements may fall within the scope of the invention as detailed within the claims". Since, applicant's claims contain broadly claimed subject matter, it clearly reads upon the examiner's interpretation of these actions. Therefore, Barker meets the claimed limitations.

Applicant argues, (3) "Barker does not teach a client presenting a user name, password or other authentication credentials when registering for object attribute update notification". The examiner respectfully disagrees in response to applicant's arguments. In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies "a client presenting a user name, password or other authentication credentials when registering for object attribute update notification" are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993). What is claimed is "an object-level access control". Barker very clearly teaches an object-level access control (e.g., use of managed object identifier for network elements, figure 6). Therefore the rejection is maintained as disclosed

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above. Also, Page 46 of the specification, i.e., enclosed disclosure, clearly states “variations, modifications, additions and improvements may fall within the scope of the invention as detailed within the claims”. Since, applicant's claims contain broadly claimed subject matter, it clearly reads upon the examiner's interpretation of these actions. Therefore, Barker meets the claimed limitations.

Applicant argues, (4) “Barker does not teach object-level access control between the managers and the managed objects”. The examiner respectfully disagrees in response to applicant's arguments. Barker very clearly teaches an object-level access control (e.g., use of managed object identifier for network elements, figure 6) between the managers (e.g., software modules accessing network elements, figures 3 and 4) and the managed objects (e.g., network elements, figure 1C, abstract). Therefore the rejection is maintained as disclosed below. Also, Page 46 of the specification, i.e., enclosed disclosure, clearly states “variations, modifications, additions and improvements may fall within the scope of the invention as detailed within the claims”. Since, applicant's claims contain broadly claimed subject matter, it clearly reads upon the examiner's interpretation of these actions. Therefore, Barker meets the claimed limitations.

Applicant argues, (5) “Barker fails to anticipate determining on a managed object level whether or not the manager application is allowed to send a request to the managed object. The examiner respectfully disagrees in response to applicant's arguments. Barker very clearly teaches determining on a managed object level whether or not the manager application is allowed to send a request to the managed object (e.g., use of managed object identifier for network elements in the requests, figure 6). Therefore the rejection is maintained as disclosed below. Also, Page 46 of the specification, i.e., enclosed disclosure, clearly states “variations,

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modifications, additions and improvements may fall within the scope of the invention as detailed within the claims". Since, applicant's claims contain broadly claimed subject matter, it clearly reads upon the examiner's interpretation of these actions. Therefore, Barker meets the claimed limitations.

Applicant argues, (6) "Barker fails to teach wherein the gateway is configurable to determine whether each of the managers is authorized to communicate with each of the managed objects". The examiner respectfully disagrees in response to applicant's arguments. Barker very clearly teaches the gateway (e.g., an element management server, figure 1A) is configurable to determine whether each of the managers (e.g., software modules accessing network elements, figures 3 and 4) is authorized to communicate (e.g., user session, figure 6) with each of the managed objects (e.g., network elements, figure 1C, abstract). Therefore the rejection is maintained as disclosed above. Also, Page 46 of the specification, i.e., enclosed disclosure, clearly states "variations, modifications, additions and improvements may fall within the scope of the invention as detailed within the claims". Since, applicant's claims contain broadly claimed subject matter, it clearly reads upon the examiner's interpretation of these actions. Therefore, Barker meets the claimed limitations.

Applicant argues, (7) "Barker fails to teach a gateway that is configurable to authenticate the managers to receive the events from or to send the request to the managed objects as a function of the identity of the managed objects". The examiner respectfully disagrees in response to applicant's arguments. Barker very clearly teaches a gateway (e.g., an element management server, figure 1A) that is configurable to authenticate (e.g., figure 6) the managers (e.g., software modules accessing network elements, figures 3 and 4) to receive the events from

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or to send the request to the managed objects as a function of the identity of the managed objects (e.g., notification, figure 6). Therefore the rejection is maintained as disclosed above. Also, Page 46 of the specification, i.e., enclosed disclosure, clearly states “variations, modifications, additions and improvements may fall within the scope of the invention as detailed within the claims”. Since, applicant's claims contain broadly claimed subject matter, it clearly reads upon the examiner's interpretation of these actions. Therefore, Barker meets the claimed limitations.

Applicant argues, (8) “Barker does not teach wherein the managed objects comprise one or more objects corresponding to a telephone network. The examiner respectfully disagrees in response to applicant's arguments. Barker very clearly teaches the managed objects comprise one or more objects corresponding to a telephone network (e.g., figure 1A, network element of public switched telephone network, also corresponding is a broad term meaning - be in contact, in touch, communicate). Therefore the rejection is maintained as disclosed above. Also, Page 46 of the specification, i.e., enclosed disclosure, clearly states “variations, modifications, additions and improvements may fall within the scope of the invention as detailed within the claims”. Since, applicant's claims contain broadly claimed subject matter, it clearly reads upon the examiner's interpretation of these actions. Therefore, Barker meets the claimed limitations.

Applicant argues, (9) “Barker does not teach a gateway that is configurable to provide security audit trails comprising the gateway providing access to a logging service”. The examiner respectfully disagrees in response to applicant's arguments. Barker very clearly teaches a gateway that is configurable to provide security audit trails comprising the gateway providing access to a logging service (e.g., use of storage devices to store filtered / audited and events information, col., 11, lines 18 – 60, col., 17, line 33 – col., 18, line 9, col., 41, line 63 –

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col., 42, line 53). Therefore the rejection is maintained as disclosed above. Also, Page 46 of the specification, i.e., enclosed disclosure, clearly states “variations, modifications, additions and improvements may fall within the scope of the invention as detailed within the claims”. Since, applicant's claims contain broadly claimed subject matter, it clearly reads upon the examiner's interpretation of these actions. Therefore, Barker meets the claimed limitations.

Applicant argues, (10) “Barker does not teach the logging service, local data services at the server, is operable to log an ID of a user that sends each request”. The examiner respectfully disagrees in response to applicant's arguments. In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies “the logging service, local data services at the server, is operable to log an ID of a user that sends each request” are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993). What is claimed is “the logging service is operable to log an ID of a user that sends each request”. Barker very clearly teaches the logging service is operable to log an ID of a user that sends each request (e.g., ID of an agent application associated with a particular user request, col., 11, lines 18 – 60, col., 17, line 33 – col., 18, line 9, col., 41, line 63 – col., 42, line 53). Therefore the rejection is maintained as disclosed above. Also, Page 46 of the specification, i.e., enclosed disclosure, clearly states “variations, modifications, additions and improvements may fall within the scope of the invention as detailed within the claims”. Since, applicant's claims contain broadly claimed subject matter, it clearly reads upon the examiner's interpretation of these actions. Therefore, Barker meets the claimed limitations.

Applicant argues, (11) “Barker does not teach that the requests are converted from the interface definition language to a platform-specific format / Portable Management Interface (PMD format prior to delivery to the managed objects”. The examiner respectfully disagrees in response to applicant's arguments. Barker very clearly teaches that the requests are converted from the interface definition language to a platform-specific format / Portable Management Interface (PMD format prior to delivery to the managed objects (e.g., conversion from the IDL to a network element specific protocol, the specific protocol used for communication with the network element is specified by the service object, other managed object classes could be added that utilize a different protocol and encapsulate that knowledge in the managed object class, hence any protocol, like PMI can be supported, col., 21, line 46 – col., 22, line 59). Also, Page 46 of the specification, i.e., enclosed disclosure, clearly states “variations, modifications, additions and improvements may fall within the scope of the invention as detailed within the claims”. Since, applicant's claims contain broadly claimed subject matter, it clearly reads upon the examiner's interpretation of these actions. Therefore, Barker meets the claimed limitations.

Applicant states, (12) “In a facsimile communication dated May 25, 2004, the Examiner suggests two possible limitations, either of which, if incorporated into Applicants' independent claims, would overcome the prior art and render them in a condition for allowance”. In clarification to this, examiner proposed amending the claims on May 25, 2004. No agreement was reached between Mr. Robert C Kowert and the examiner.

Specification

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3. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The present title is not sufficient for proper classification of the claimed subject matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 58 - 63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
5. Claims 58 - 60 recite the limitation “the manager access”. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
6. Claims 61-63 recite the limitations “the insertion of the user name”, “the request message to enforce object-level access control”. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this

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subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

8. Non-amended claims 1-57, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Barker et al. U.S. patent number 6,363,421, as per paper number, 06/15/2004.

9. New claims 58-63, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Vuong et al. U.S. patent number 6,430,578 (Hereinafter Vuong).

10. As per claims 58-60, Vuong teaches a network management system / method / a computer readable medium (e.g., col., 5, lines 57 – col., 6, line 23), comprising: a gateway which is coupled to a plurality of managed objects and which is configured to deliver events generated by the managed objects to one or more managers or to deliver requests generated by the managers to one or more of the managed objects (e.g., col., 5, lines 57 – col., 6, line 23), and a platform-independent interface to the gateway (e.g., col., 2, lines 1 – 26), wherein the gateway is configurable to communicate with the managers through the platform- independent interface to deliver the events or requests (e.g., col., 4, lines 40 – 67);

the gateway is configurable to provide object-level access control between the managers and the managed objects to receive the events from or to send the requests to the managed objects (e.g., col., 2, line 26 – 52, col., 6, lines 42 - 59), wherein said object-level access control is provided at the individual object level so that one of the managers is granted access to one of the managed objects while being prevented from interfacing with a different one of the managed objects (e.g., col., 2, line 26 – 52, col., 6, lines 42 - 59), and wherein the managers use a request Service Access Point (SAP) for requests and responses (e.g., col., 2, lines 16 – 26),

sending an identity of a user of a manager application to a gateway (e.g., col., 5, lines 4 – 27), determining on a managed object level whether or not the manager application is allowed to receive an event generated by one of a plurality of managed objects or to send a request to the one of the plurality of managed objects as a function of the identity of the user of the manager application (e.g., col., 7, lines 9 – 32), whereby access for the manager application to receive the event or send the request is approved or denied for said one of the plurality of managed objects at the individual object level so that the manager application is granted access to one of the plurality of managed objects while being prevented from interfacing with a different one of the plurality of managed objects (e.g., col., 8, lines 21 – 42); and delivering the event to the manager application or the request to the managed object if the manager access is approved (e.g., col., 7, lines 2 – 26).

11. As per claims 61-63, Vuong teaches a network management system / method / a computer readable medium (e.g., col., 5, lines 57 – col., 6, line 23), comprising: a gateway which is coupled to a plurality of managed objects and which is configured to deliver events generated by the managed objects to one or more managers or to deliver requests generated by the managers to one or more of the managed objects (e.g., col., 5, lines 57 – col., 6, line 23), and a platform-independent interface to the gateway (e.g., col., 2, lines 1 – 26), wherein the gateway is configurable to communicate with the managers through the platform-independent interface to deliver the events or requests (e.g., col., 4, lines 40 – 67);

the gateway is configurable to provide object-level access control between the managers and the managed objects to receive the events from or to send the requests to the managed

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objects (e.g., col., 2, line 26 – 52, col., 6, lines 42 - 59), wherein said object-level access control is provided at the individual object level so that one of the managers is granted access to one of the managed objects while being prevented from interfacing with a different one of the managed objects (e.g., col., 2, line 26 – 52, col., 6, lines 42 - 59), wherein the gateway uses a singleton SAP object that shares all ProxyAgents through which a manager deals with a managed object (e.g., col., 2, lines 16 – 26), and allows the insertion of the user name in the request message to enforce object-level access control (e.g., col., 2, lines 16 – 26),

sending an identity of a user of a manager application to a gateway (e.g., col., 5, lines 4 – 27), determining on a managed object level whether or not the manager application is allowed to receive an event generated by one of a plurality of managed objects or to send a request to the one of the plurality of managed objects as a function of the identity of the user of the manager application (e.g., col., 7, lines 9 – 32), whereby access for the manager application to receive the event or send the request is approved or denied for said one of the plurality of managed objects at the individual object level so that the manager application is granted access to one of the plurality of managed objects while being prevented from interfacing with a different one of the plurality of managed objects (e.g., col., 8, lines 21 – 42); and delivering the event to the manager application or the request to the managed object if the manager access is approved (e.g., col., 7, lines 2 – 26).

12. New claims 58-63, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Spencer U.S. patent number 6,253,243 (Hereinafter Spencer).

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13. As per claims 58-60, Spencer teaches a network management system / method / a computer readable medium (e.g., col., 4, lines 23 - 63), comprising: a gateway which is coupled to a plurality of managed objects and which is configured to deliver events generated by the managed objects to one or more managers or to deliver requests generated by the managers to one or more of the managed objects (e.g., col., 4, line 53 – col., 5, line 20), and

a platform-independent interface to the gateway (e.g., col., 5, lines 46 - 65), wherein the gateway is configurable to communicate with the managers through the platform-independent interface to deliver the events or requests (e.g., col., 6, lines 13 - 29);

the gateway is configurable to provide object-level access control between the managers and the managed objects to receive the events from or to send the requests to the managed objects (e.g., col., 5, lines 46 - 65), wherein said object-level access control is provided at the individual object level so that one of the managers is granted access to one of the managed objects while being prevented from interfacing with a different one of the managed objects (e.g., col., 7, lines 35 - 57), and wherein the managers use a request Service Access Point (SAP) for requests and responses (e.g., col., 6, lines 2 - 28),

sending an identity of a user of a manager application to a gateway (e.g., col., 7, lines 35 - 67), determining on a managed object level whether or not the manager application is allowed to receive an event generated by one of a plurality of managed objects or to send a request to the one of the plurality of managed objects as a function of the identity of the user of the manager application (e.g., col., 5, line 53 – col., 6, line 13), whereby access for the manager application to receive the event or send the request is approved or denied for said one of the plurality of managed objects at the individual object level so that the manager application is granted access

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to one of the plurality of managed objects while being prevented from interfacing with a different one of the plurality of managed objects (e.g., col., 7, lines 35 - 67); and delivering the event to the manager application or the request to the managed object if the manager access is approved (e.g., col., 6, lines 23 - 49).

14. As per claims 61-63, Spencer teaches a network management system / method / a computer readable medium (e.g., col., 4, lines 23 - 63), comprising: a gateway which is coupled to a plurality of managed objects and which is configured to deliver events generated by the managed objects to one or more managers or to deliver requests generated by the managers to one or more of the managed objects (e.g., col., 4, line 53 – col., 5, line 20), and

a platform-independent interface to the gateway (e.g., col., 5, lines 46 - 65), wherein the gateway is configurable to communicate with the managers through the platform-independent interface to deliver the events or requests (e.g., col., 6, lines 13 - 29);

the gateway is configurable to provide object-level access control between the managers and the managed objects to receive the events from or to send the requests to the managed objects (e.g., col., 5, lines 46 - 65), wherein said object-level access control is provided at the individual object level so that one of the managers is granted access to one of the managed objects while being prevented from interfacing with a different one of the managed objects (e.g., col., 7, lines 35 - 57), and wherein the managers use a request Service Access Point (SAP) for requests and responses (e.g., col., 6, lines 2 - 28), wherein the gateway uses a singleton SAP object that shares all ProxyAgents through which a manager deals with a managed object (e.g.,

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col., 5, lines 2 - 34), and allows the insertion of the user name in the request message to enforce object-level access control (e.g., col., 5, lines 47 - 67),

sending an identity of a user of a manager application to a gateway (e.g., col., 7, lines 35 - 67), determining on a managed object level whether or not the manager application is allowed to receive an event generated by one of a plurality of managed objects or to send a request to the one of the plurality of managed objects as a function of the identity of the user of the manager application (e.g., col., 5, line 53 – col., 6, line 13), whereby access for the manager application to receive the event or send the request is approved or denied for said one of the plurality of managed objects at the individual object level so that the manager application is granted access to one of the plurality of managed objects while being prevented from interfacing with a different one of the plurality of managed objects (e.g., col., 7, lines 35 - 67); and delivering the event to the manager application or the request to the managed object if the manager access is approved (e.g., col., 6, lines 23 - 49).

15. New claims 58-63, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Barker et al. U.S. patent number 6,363,421 (Hereinafter Barker).

16. As per claims 58-60, Barker teaches a network management system / method / a computer readable medium (e.g., figure 1A), comprising: a gateway which is coupled to a plurality of managed objects and which is configured to deliver events generated by the managed objects to one or more managers or to deliver requests generated by the managers to one or more of the managed objects (e.g., figures 2A, 3, col., 5, lines 33 – 39, col., 8, line 53 – col., 9, line 19), and

a platform-independent interface to the gateway (e.g., col., 4, lines 33 – 42, col., 5, lines 33 – 39), wherein the gateway is configurable to communicate with the managers through the platform- independent interface to deliver the events or requests (e.g., col., 5, lines 11 - 24);

the gateway is configurable to provide object-level access control between the managers and the managed objects to receive the events from or to send the requests to the managed objects (e.g., use of managed object identifier for network elements, figure 6), wherein said object-level access control is provided at the individual object level so that one of the managers is granted access to one of the managed objects while being prevented from interfacing with a different one of the managed objects (e.g., use of naming service, col., 8, line 53 – col., 9, line 33), and wherein the managers use a request Service Access Point (SAP) for requests and responses (e.g., use of naming service, col., 8, line 53 – col., 9, line 33),

sending an identity of a user of a manager application to a gateway (e.g., figure 6, col., 8, line 53 – col., 9, line 33), determining on a managed object level whether or not the manager application is allowed to receive an event generated by one of a plurality of managed objects or to send a request to the one of the plurality of managed objects as a function of the identity of the user of the manager application (e.g., col., 14, line 35 – col., 15, line 31), whereby access for the manager application to receive the event or send the request is approved or denied for said one of the plurality of managed objects at the individual object level so that the manager application is granted access to one of the plurality of managed objects while being prevented from interfacing with a different one of the plurality of managed objects (e.g., use of naming service and event distribution, col., 17, lines 3 - 64); and delivering the event to the manager application or the

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request to the managed object if the manager access is approved (e.g., use of naming service and filtering, col., 17, lines 3 - 64).

17. As per claims 61-63, Barker teaches a network management system / method / a computer readable medium (e.g., figure 1A), comprising: a gateway which is coupled to a plurality of managed objects and which is configured to deliver events generated by the managed objects to one or more managers or to deliver requests generated by the managers to one or more of the managed objects (e.g., figures 2A, 3, col., 5, lines 33 - 39, col., 8, line 53 - col., 9, line 19), and

a platform-independent interface to the gateway (e.g., col., 4, lines 33 - 42, col., 5, lines 33 - 39), wherein the gateway is configurable to communicate with the managers through the platform- independent interface to deliver the events or requests (e.g., col., 5, lines 11 - 24);

the gateway is configurable to provide object-level access control between the managers and the managed objects to receive the events from or to send the requests to the managed objects (e.g., use of managed object identifier for network elements, figure 6), wherein said object-level access control is provided at the individual object level so that one of the managers is granted access to one of the managed objects while being prevented from interfacing with a different one of the managed objects (e.g., use of naming service, col., 8, line 53 - col., 9, line 33), and wherein the managers use a request Service Access Point (SAP) for requests and responses (e.g., use of naming service, col., 8, line 53 - col., 9, line 33), wherein the gateway uses a singleton SAP object (e.g., use of naming service, col., 8, line 53 - col., 9, line 33), that shares all ProxyAgents through which a manager deals with a managed object (e.g., col., 11,

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lines 18 – 60) and allows the insertion of the user name in the request message to enforce object-level access control (e.g., figure 6, col., 17, lines 25 – 63),

sending an identity of a user of a manager application to a gateway (e.g., figure 6, col., 8, line 53 – col., 9, line 33), determining on a managed object level whether or not the manager application is allowed to receive an event generated by one of a plurality of managed objects or to send a request to the one of the plurality of managed objects as a function of the identity of the user of the manager application (e.g., col., 14, line 35 – col., 15, line 31), whereby access for the manager application to receive the event or send the request is approved or denied for said one of the plurality of managed objects at the individual object level so that the manager application is granted access to one of the plurality of managed objects while being prevented from interfacing with a different one of the plurality of managed objects (e.g., use of naming service and event distribution, col., 17, lines 3 - 64); and delivering the event to the manager application or the request to the managed object if the manager access is approved (e.g., use of naming service and filtering, col., 17, lines 3 - 64).

Conclusion

18. The prior art made of record (forms PTO-892 and applicant provided IDS cited arts) and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Apte, US 2004/0111730 A1, June 10, 2004, also discloses use of CORBA Server and the object level access control.

Roytman et al, US 2002/0012011, Jan. 31, 2002, also discloses use of PMI, naming service and a distributed network management system for object level access control among proxy agents and network devices.

Spencer 6,253,243, and Vuong et al 6,430,578, teaches naming service using well-known use of PMI.

Feuerman, 6,529,947, "Managing transiently connected network clients", discloses use of name service to provide object level access control over the network among objects.

Applicant submitted, IDS, paper number 9, N. Lynch et. al., "Web Enabled TMN Manager", clearly discloses use of CORBA with the existing TMN devices for object level access control.

Taylor et al, 6,256,676, "Agent-adapter architecture for use in enterprise application integration systems", discloses use of object level access control for variety of objects.

Bowman-Amuah, 6,640,249, "Presentation services patterns in a netcentric environment", discloses use of CORBA server, naming service, security audit trails, etc.

Houlding, 6,75,771, "System and method for delivering web services using common object request broker architecture", discloses use of CORBA naming service for object level access control among objects.

In order to speed up the prosecution of this case, examiner has made an additional serious effort for amending the independent claims. Applicant is suggested to make the following amendments to the claims to define the scope of their invention.

Cancellation of claims 58 – 63 and Amendment of claims 1, 20, 39 as follows:

Claim 1: A network management system, comprising:

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a gateway coupled between a plurality of managed objects and a plurality of proxy agent managers; and the gateway is configured to deliver events generated by the managed objects to the managers and to deliver requests generated by the managers to the managed objects; wherein, each of the events and each of the requests contain a user identification; wherein, the user identification identifies the respective manager for which the event or the request belongs to;

a platform-independent interface to the gateway, wherein the gateway is configurable to provide communication between the managers and the managed objects through the platform-independent interface to deliver the events and the requests; wherein, the managers share a singleton Request Service Access Point (RequestSAP) object;

wherein, the gateway is configurable to provide object-level access control between the managers and the managed objects to receive the events from and to send the requests to the managed objects, wherein said object-level access control is provided by the Request SAP object at an individual object level to grant one of the managers to access one of the managed objects while the Request SAP object preventing the one of the managers being accessed by the other managed objects.

Claims 20: and 39: Amendment of these claims with the similar limitations of the above-amended claim 1.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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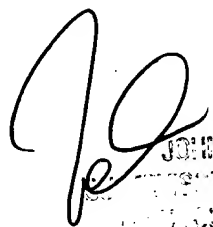
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Haresh Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272-3973. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Haresh Patel

January 26, 2005



JOHN FOLLANSBEE
SENIOR PATENT EXAMINER
ELECTRONIC BUSINESS CENTER 2100